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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 09611 272000Z

70
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-05 RSC-01 DRC-01 /018 W
---------- 045844
R 271920Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6061
INFO USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, VE
SUBJ: LONG-RANGE RADAR SYSTEM FOR VENEZUELA

1. IN ORDER TO ACQUAINT STATE AND COMMERCE WITH THIS PROJECT, EMBASSY SUBMITS SHORT DESCRIPTION.

2. PROJECT BEING STUDIED JOINTLY BY THE MINISTRIES OF PUBLIC WORKS, DEFENSE AND COMMUNICATIONS FOR JOINT-USE RADAR NETWORK TO GIVE COVERAGE OF THE ENTIRE COUNTRY, COAST AND BORDERS, WITH SEPARATE CONTROL CENTERS FOR MILITARY APPLICATION AND AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL. IT IS ENVISIONED THAT NETWORK WILL REQUIRE SIX LONG-RANGE RADARS, WITH MICROWAVE LINKS AND TWO LARGE CONTROL CENTERS AT A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 100 MILES FROM EACH OTHER. TOTAL COST OF PROJECT MIGHT REACH $100 MILLION. INITIAL INTENTION IS TO INSTALL TWO RADARS PER YEAR, ALTHOUGH RECENTLY SOME PRESSURE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN EXERTED BY THE MILITARY TOWARDS EARLIER INSTALLATION.

3. INITIAL PLANNING APPEARS TO BE IN HANDS OF MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS. PRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE SO FAR BY WESTINGHOUSE, BENDIX AND RAYTHEON, ALL OF WHICH HAVE STRESSTD NECESSITY FOR A SYSTEMS APPROACH INSTEAD OF A PIECEMEAL PURCHASE. THIS CONCEPT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY ALL SIDES, ALTHOUGH THE MILITARY PARTNER APPEARS TO HAVE SOME SECURITY PREOCCUPATIONS ABOUT SYSTEMS APPROACH.

4. WHILE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS MUST BE AWARE THAT RUMORS OF PROJECT ABOUND, IT DOES NOT SEEM TO WISH TO BE FLOODED BY OFFERS FOR
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ITEMS WHICH MIGHT FIT SUCH A PROJECT. POST THEREFORE REQUESTS

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THAT NO PUBLICITY BE GIVEN TO IT, INASMUCH AS FINAL DECISION TO
PROCEED WITH PROJECT HAS NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN MADE. U.S. FIRMS
CAPABLE OF SUPPLYING HARDWARE AND CONDUCTING SYSTEMS DESIGN ALREADY
APPEAR TO KNOW ABOUT IT AND HAVE CONTACTED THE EMBASSY, THE
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS OR THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.
FISHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: PROCUREMENT, RADAR, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 27 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
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